

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 610

By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Society of Universal Dialogue and the Turkish-American community of Tennessee for their meritorious service to the State and its citizens.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize, with honor and distinction, those organizations and communities that promote economic and cultural development throughout our great State; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Universal Dialogue and the Turkish-American community of Tennessee are most deserving of our recognition for the numerous contributions they have made to diversity, economic well-being, culture, and quality of life throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Universal Dialogue is a non-profit organization that is headquartered in Nashville, with a branch location in Knoxville (Knoxville Turkish Culture Center), in order to promote better understanding and closer relations among various and diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, in facing the challenges of today's world, the Society of Universal Dialogue encourages dialogue between the Turkish-American community and the world through educational, cultural, and humanitarian works; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Universal Dialogue promotes programs such as the annually organized Turkish Festival, Children's Festival, food festivals, cooking classes, art and handcraft exhibits, distinguished speaker series, seminars, youth and adult education, social and moral services, community service projects, interfaith and intercultural dialogue luncheons and dinners, disaster relief services, international day celebrations, concerts and performances, annual friendship and dialogue dinners, and an annual cultural trip to Turkey, all of which help to educate and inform the citizens of Tennessee about Turkish culture; and

WHEREAS, the local Turkish-American population is devoted to improving the lives of others, assisting the Society of Universal Dialogue with relief programs for victims of natural and other disasters, organizing donations and food drive programs, and encouraging others in the Turkish-American community to volunteer at the Tennessee Community Food Bank and several area homeless shelters; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Universal Dialogue and the Turkish-American community of Tennessee, once again partners in community service, achieved much success with their second annual "Share the Wish" Fundraiser to benefit the Tennessee School of the Deaf; and

WHEREAS, the Turkish-American community of Tennessee and the Society of Universal Dialogue encompass the highest values of service, charity, and the promotion of diversity and stand out as exceptional advocates for peace and understanding among the various communities across the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and commend the Turkish-American community of Nashville and the Society of Universal Dialogue for their many contributions to the State of Tennessee and extend to them our best wishes for their continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.